AMERICAN LARYNGOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Winter 2022 Newsletter **February 2022**

Message from the President

February 2022

I am excited to provide an update on some of activities of the ALA since the summer newsletter. First, I want to thank the following people who have been so important to my engagement in the ALA:

-Maxine Cunningham, MBA, Administrator
-Robert Buckmire MD, ALA Annual Meeting Program Chair
-Joel Blumin MD, ALA Secretary
-Peak Woo MD, Chair of the ALA Listening Tour committee

In addition, I want to express my gratitude for the support and guidance from my colleagues and friends Mark Courey, MD, and Blake Simpson MD. Peak Woo and the ALA Listening Tour committee have completed the first phase of our attempt to learn how the ALA membership is served by the ALA. A survey was sent out to all members and the results are being tabulated. A structured interview of members is the next charge of the committee and will start soon. The results of these efforts will be presented to the membership in the near future.

I am excited to share some exciting aspects planned for our Annual meeting in Dallas, Texas April 28-30, 2022. (Note- this is a Thursday, Friday, and Saturday!) The theme of the meeting is "*Let's Get Out of Our Silos: Moving towards Multi-Center Clinical Research*". I hope that the content and discussion from our ALA State of Art Lecture by Thomas Chi MD, "*Lost in Big Data – The Value of EHRs for Clinical Registries*" and our panel "*Multi-Institutional Research in Laryngology: Pearls, Perils, Pitfalls and Progress*" led by Lyndsay Madden DO will spark our field to a new level of joint clinical research efforts.

In addition to our discussions regarding multi-center clinical research, we will have panels *on Idiopathic Subglottic Stenosis* (moderator Dale Ekbom MD) and *Mid-Membranous Vocal Fold Lesions* (moderator Lesley Childs MD). We received 133 abstract submissions and have selected the best for our oral presentations.

On Thursday April 28th the ALA will have its annual President's Reception. I remember all too well that the ALA President reception used to be a black-tie, formal affair and filled with friends connecting and a great sense of community. I have always treasured the latter but not the formality of a sit-down dinner nor being in a tuxedo! This year's ALA President's reception will be different from a dress and formality perspective. The event's theme is "*Show Your Team Spirit*". I am inviting everyone to attend the President's reception and (1) celebrate our community and (2) show off your school/favorite team spirit (Go Bears!). Please wear something that reflects your past/present school or favorite team (see photograph). In addition to award announcements, food & drink, there will be a host of arcade games for all of us to play (e.g. ping-pong, basketball, Galaga, cornhole…). I hope you will change into comfortable clothes that show your school/team spirit and spend the evening with all of our Laryngology community.

I look forward to seeing you all in Dallas (April 28-30)!

Sincerely,

Clark A Rosen MD

Clark A. Rosen MD

2022 Winter Council Meeting Recap

Presented by President Rosen, a summary of this year's program will include scientific papers, lectures, and a panel discussion each day. A total of 125 abstracts was submitted that was an increase of 51% from 2021. The abstracts were submitted to the Program Committee (Drs. Robert Buckmire, Paul Bryson, Laura Matrka, Libby Smith and Michael Pitman) for review and ranking. There will be 34 podium presentations and authors of the remaining abstracts were invited as poster presentations. Dr. Rosen reported that the ARS and the AHNS will join the ALA for the ALA Daniel C. Baker MD Lecture given by Dr. Wayne Sotile on Thursday, April 28th. This event will be broadcast simultaneously in each society's meeting room. Dr. Sotile is world renowned for his research and lectures on resilience. His topic will be "***Renewal, Resilience, and Stamina: Keys to Thriving Through Changing Times***". Dr. Thomas Chi, of UCSF, was selected to deliver the ALA State of the Art Lecturer. He will lecture on "**Lost in Big Data - The Value of EHRs for Clinical Registries".** The Council encourages you to attend each of the three half day sessions as well as the business meeting at 7:00 AM on Friday morning, April 29. when our new fellows and members will be introduced to the membership.

We welcomed Dr. Blumin's in his first year as secretary. He informed Council of the vaccination status for on-site COSM attendees. A hold harmless clause will be required at the time of registering for COSM and provide proof of vaccination via the entity, CLEAR. To cover the cost for CLEAR, $5 is being assessed to individual registration fees. Since the State of Texas does not have a mandate requiring vaccinations, unvaccinated individuals who wish to attend the onsite meeting will required to submit to a daily COVID test. This will require a daily visit to a clinic as a self-administered test will not be allowed. Instructions are available on the COSM website.

Dr. Blumin reported that Dr. Klein, as chair of the Membership Committee, submitted its report on the proposed candidates. Recommended for Active Fellowship are Drs. Leslie Childs, David Lott, and Alex Gelbard and Drs. Stephane Hans and Daniel Novakovic for Corresponding Fellowship. Ballots to eligible voting members will be provided via the ALA website and/or mailed to members whose email addresses we lack. Drs. Yael Bensoussan, Keith Chadwick, Aisha Harun, Breanne Schiffer, Mausumi Syamal, and Yin Yiu were recommended for Post-Graduate Membership. We look forward to introducing our candidates to the membership during the business meeting on Friday, April 29. Drs. Christopher Tang and Jerome Lechien didn't meet the required criteria for their respective member category.

Dr. Johns reported that the ALA continues to be financially **healthy with investment growth.** The Treasurer 's efforts to eliminate delinquency among members' dues continues to be successful. He happily report that less than eight delinquent members.

In his role as editor, Dr. Chhetri informed Council the website's traffic continues to show a steady increase of visits. From an analytic standpoint, most of our visitors are still from the US, followed by China, India, and Canada. Pages visited most are Laryngology Fellowship Meetings, Find A Laryngologist, and Laryngology Curriculum. Dr. Chhetri suggested that the Association should continue to focus on those areas in terms of improving content. It is important that Fellows/Members know their user name and have a specific password. In most cases, the user name is the member's email address. Log on to https://alahns.org/members-area/#myaccount to request a temporary password or contact our Administrator, Maxine Cunningham, at maxine.c@comcast.net. The Post-Graduate members are to be congratulated for their continuous efforts on the educational-related information on the website..

In Dr. Benninger's absence, Dr. Sulica requested Council to observe a moment of silence in memory to Drs. Francis LeJeune, Herbert Dedo, Michael Broniatowski and Thomas Calcaterra who passed away since our Spring meeting. Ms. Cunningham reported the 2021-2022 Sustainers Fund Campaign kicked off in late November with each Fellow/ Member being mailed a donor card. There was a record number of new contributors from each member category as well as repeat donors. Donations are accepted throughout the year and each member is encouraged to make a tax-deductible contribution.

Research Grants - The Research Committee, chaired by Dr. Ted Mau, received four (4) applications for the 2022 award period. Results of review and/or funding will be announced during our Annual Meeting on April 29th.

2021 Nominating Committee - Chaired by Dr. Flint, members (Drs. Simpson, Garrett, Long and Heman-Ackah) met and reviewed candidates who were nominated or self-nominated. The reported will be provided during the business meeting. Please remember Active Fellows of the Association may submit recommendations and suggestions for a

COSM Registration

Registration continues for the 2022 Annual Meeting. To take advantage of early registration, log on to www.cosm.md. Early Registrations must be received/postmarked by 11:59 pm CT on Thursday, March 31, 2022. It will be wonderful to see you in Dallas.

2021 Nominating Committee

Chaired by Dr. Flint, members (Drs. Simpson, Garrett, Long and Heman-Ackah) met and reviewed candidates who were nominated or self-nominated. The report will be provided during the business meeting. Please remember Active Fellows of the Association may submit recommendations and suggestions for a new Councilor-at-Large and to fill two positions of non-Council members for the 2022 nominating committee. Active Fellows may also nominate themselves. Contact the Secretary to submit nominees by September 1, 2022.

Proposal for a change in Bylaws, 2022

Ballots will be sent to each eligible fellow digitally or USPS (for those we lack a valid email address) no later than March 15. We ask that you review each proposed amendment, vote and return to our administrator no later than March 31. Results of the balloting will be announced during the April 29th Business Meeting.

Ballot for 2022 Candidates

Two years ago, we converted candidate balloting to electronic voting. If we have a valid email address, eligible voters (Active and Emeritus fellows) you will receive the ballot via email. **Your current email address must be in your profile on the website to receive the electronic ballot. If you are unable to log in and your email address is correct, request a new password by logging on to the web-site, www.alahns.org/members-area/ to request a temporary password. If you need to update your profile, contact the Administrator at maxine.c@comcast.net for assistance.** If you do not utilize email, a ballot book will be mailed to your address on file. You may select either of the two methods but the digital is most preferred. Remember to vote, sign, and return your ballot no later than **March 25, 2022**. Ballots returned **incomplete and after March 25** will be considered invalid. Please read and follow the instructions on the first page of the ballot book.

From the ALA Editor

Dear Members,

I look forward to seeing you in person at the 143rd Annual Meeting of our Association. As you know, all oral and poster presentations at ALA Meetings are required to submit a manuscript to the Laryngoscope by March 21, 2022. To maintain the high quality of peer review of these manuscripts the Associate Editors for Laryngology and Bronchoesophagology will need your assistance in reviewing these articles. Your acceptance to review these manuscripts is very much appreciated and thank you for your generous contribution of time and expertise.

2022 President's Reception

As Dr. Rosen stated in his President's Message, this year's reception will provide the opportunity for you to relax and perhaps travel back to a time when you "played" the machines and challenged your room/ classmates in the gaming world. Join us and show off your favorite team jersey or shirt, be it school or sports. Leave the tie or dress pumps in your room to celebrate and "*Show Your Team Spirit*". There will be food and drink while you visit the gaming area and you may walk away with a prize. I am inviting everyone to attend the President's reception and (1) celebrate our community, (2) show off your school/ favorite team spirit (Go Bears!) and help us recognize outstanding colleagues during our awards ceremony.

To purchase tickets, please contact our Administrator, Maxine Cunningham, at Maxine.c@comcast.net or by calling her at 615-812-6170. Tickets purchased on or before **April 7th** will be available for $90 for ALA members and $120 beginning **April 8th**. We welcome our Non-member colleagues and hope you will also join us by purchasing tickets during the same time period f or $100 and $125 beginning **April 7th**. You may remit payment via credit card (VISA, MasterCard or American Express). Checks are accepted as well but must be received prior to the aforementioned dates.

2022 Council

First Row (left to right): Clark A. Rosen, President; Lucian Sulica, Vice President/President-elect; Joel H. Blumin, Secretary; Michael M. Johns III, Treasurer; Dinesh Chhetri, Editor; Michael S. Benninger, Historian;

Second Row (left to right): Gady Har-El, First Councilor; C. Blake Simpson, Second Councilor; Paul W. Flint, Third Councilor; Karen M. Kost, Councilor-at-Large; Albert Merati, Councilor-at-Large

IN MEMORY

Several times, the Association only learns of the passing of a Fellow when mail is returned as “undeliverable”, notification from other knowledgeable individuals or our Administrator learns through social media searches. Sometimes, it may be a year or two before we are able to inform the fellowship after verification death is confirmed. We continue to ask that you inform us when you learn one of our invaluable Fellows has passed away so appropriate condolences may be extended to the family

Francis LeJeune, MD (c. 1929—April 25, 2021

The Association was recently informed of the passing of one of our Emeritus Fellows, Dr. Francis Ernest “Duke” LeJeune, Jr., on April 15, 2021, at the age of 92. Born in New Orleans, he was the son of the late Dr. Francis Ernest LeJeune, Sr and Anna Lynne Dodds LeJeune. He was inducted as an Active Fellow in 1979 and was elevated to Emeritus Fellowship in 1990.

He received his undergraduate and medical degrees from Tulane University. Dr. LeJeune completed his resident training in Otolaryngology and Maxillofacial Surgery training at the University of Iowa, that was followed by a two-year stint (1957-1959) in the Air Force, as Chief of the Department of Otolaryngology at Keesler Field. In 1959, he returned to New Orleans and began his career at Ochsner Clinic in the Department of Otorhinolaryngology, becoming chairman of the department in 1963, a position he held for decades. In honor of his father, Dr. LeJeune established the Francis E. LeJeune Lectureship at Ochsner Clinic.

Dr. LeJeune was a member of many professional societies, including the Triological Society and was an innovator in his field as one of the first people in the US doing medialization laryngoplasties. He was a member of the Southern Yacht Club, the Boston Club, the Lakeshore Club, several carnival organizations, and was a keen supporter of the National WWII Museum. When not attending to his patients, Dr. LeJeune enjoyed sailing, duck hunting, fishing, woodworking, and inventing in his workshop. His inventions, such as the Lighted Cane, lead to numerous patents. He was extremely loyal to his family and friends, to Tulane University, and to the Ochsner medical institutions.

Herbert Dedo, MD (c. 1933– August 5, 2021)

The Association was notified that a valuable Fellow, Dr. Herbert H. Dedo, passed on August 5, 2021 in Hillsborough, California as an extended illness. In 1973, Dr. Dedo was proposed for Active Fellowship by the late Drs. Francis Sooy and Joseph Ogura. Following retirement from active practice in 2010, he requested elevation to Emeritus fellowship. Born in Detroit Michigan, Dr. Dedo completed his undergraduate education at the University of California - Los Angeles and received his medical degree at the University of California - Los Angeles in 1958. His residency training in Otolaryngology was at UCSF. He was an early fellowship trained head and neck oncologic surgeon. Dr. Dedo's training was then followed by NIH Special fellowships at Washington University of St. Louis with Dr. Ogura and the University of Hamburg in Germany.

It was Dr. Sooy who gave Dr. Dedo his first job as an academic otolaryngologist at UCSF in 1966 where he remained until his retirement in 2010. Dr. Dedo was an inveterate innovator and tinkerer who was a renowned laryngologist and head and neck surgeon. He was responsible for many new techniques and many instrument iterations which made the practice of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery more facile. He was a pioneer in adapting the laser to be of precise utility in the difficult to access regions of the airway.

Spending his academic career at UCFS, Dr. Dedo was a character who was very opinionated; however, he was always willing to assist when difficult clinical situations arose with viewpoints based upon vast clinical experience. Dr. Dedo published a truly elegant surgical atlas called Surgery of the Larynx and Trachea in 1990 that exquisitely outlined his painstaking surgical approaches. He authored/co-authored more than 200 papers, presentations, chapters, and speaking engagements. When Herb was in the operating room at UCSF, he often hosted visiting surgeons from around the world. He was a true pioneer in the treatment of laryngeal dystonias, laryngeal paralysis, and also was a surgeon who was in the forefront of managing recurrent respiratory papillomatosis and laryngeal and tracheal stenosis. Multiple generations of UCSF OHNS surgeons and students could recite Herb’s approaches to clinical problems by heart.

Being an ALA Fellow for more 48 years, Dr. Dedo was also an active member in the Triological Society where he received the prestigious Harris P. Mosher Award for his 1970 Triological Thesis, the Society of University Otolaryngologists and American Society for Head and Neck Surgery is noteworthy. In 2005, he was the recipient of the American Laryngological Association Award presented to individuals who have made a mark of recognition and esteem for outstanding achievement.

IN MEMORY OF

Michael Broniatowski, MD (December 25, 1944 - September 30, 2021)

The American Laryngological Association (ALA) was saddened to learn of the passing of Michael Broniatowski, M.D. on September 30, 2021 in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. Dr. Broniatowski was proposed for Active Fellowship by Drs. Harvey Tucker and Howard Levine in 1994 where he was an active participant during the ALA's annual meetings. In 2015, after retirement from his practice, he was elevated to Emeritus status in 2015.

On December 25, 1944, Dr. Broniatowski was born in Maidstone, England. He received his Baccalaureat after attending the Experimental Science section at the prestigious Lycee Henri IV, followed by studies at Paris University School of Medicine where he graduated with honors in 1969. After service in the French Army, he completed otolaryngology training at the hospitals of St Germain en Laye and Foch in Paris and received Specialty Certification in Otolaryngology from 1974-1976. After immigrating to the US, he was accepted in the Otolaryngology training program at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU).

His pursuit for continuous education including certification by the American Board of Otolaryngology followed by an appointed as Assistant Professor on the full-time faculty at University Hospitals, the VA Medical Center, and MetroHealth. Dr. Broniatowski returned to the faculty at CWRU followed by his becoming chairperson, in the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at the St Vincent Charity Hospital for 27 years. In 2013, due to illness, he resigned from the chairmanship; continuing part-time with MetroHealth Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery until 2019.

Dr. Broniatowski was a prolific author having published more than 100 scientific and clinical papers, editorials, movies and book chapters – and presented nationally and internationally. He enjoyed teaching residents and did not shy from brainstorming with his colleagues. He was blessed to remain in touch with close friends, some for more than 50 years. He had a keen interest in history, music, and dynasties of Lhasa Apso dogs. He had a dry sense of humor and was widely travelled.

Thomas Calcaterra, MD (July 2, 1937 - October 1, 2021)

The American Laryngological Association was notified of the passing of an esteemed Emeritus Fellow, Dr. Thomas C. Calcaterra, on October 1, 2021 in Los Angeles, California at the age of 84 years. Inducted in the ALA in 1979, Dr. Calcaterra was an Active Fellow for 27 years and upon his retirement from actively caring for patients, he was elevated to Emeritus status in 2006.

Born in Detroit, Michigan, Dr. Calcaterra received his undergraduate degree in 1958 and his medical degree in 1962 from the University of Michigan. He completed his internship in general surgery in 1963 ay UCLA. Following military service, Dr. Calcaterra returned to UCLA for his internship in general surgery at the Veterans Administration Wadsworth Hospital and a residency in otolaryngology at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis.

He was recruited as an Assistant Professor of Surgery at UCLA in 1969, with appointments as Associate Professor of Surgery in 1973 and Professor of Surgery in 1979. As one of the founders of the Department of Head and Neck Surgery, he remained a cherished faculty member at UCLA for more than 35 years and retired as a Professor Emeritus.

Recognized internationally as a Renaissance surgeon, Dr. Calcaterra was a master educator, an incomparable surgeon scientist, and a general leader with a calm and enduring voice. Throughout his career, he received numerous awards including the ALA deRoaldes Award in 2000. Dr. Calcaterra achieved international recognition as an accomplished researcher with more than 220 papers and 20 books published. He served leadership roles of many professional societies.

As one of his mentees stated, "Dr. Calcaterra was an unusual teacher. He never quite told you what to do. He was invariably trying to get us to think—to think like a surgeon—and his questions exposed how much we could learn. Among the key things we learned from him were discipline, a broad repertoire, and the exigencies of technique. It was essential, he wanted us to know, simply to understand. This was his deeper lesson. His most important role, as a surgeon and as a scientist, was to bear witness to the wide experience of being human. Dr. Calcaterra remained a great mentor for many residents and faculty at UCLA and around the globe. He knew so much about so much in every topic. He knew people in every nook and cranny of academia, science and surgery. And they all knew him, and revered him. Through his work and generosity, Dr. Calcaterra shaped our future, that of numerous mentees and innumerable patients as a generous leader, who was a gentleman devoted to his wife and the department with the same calm, steady hands that he used in surgery where nature was undone then redone masterfully."

.

Post Graduate Members Corner—February 2022

Dear ALA-Post Graduate Members-

I hope you are staying warm and well this season. This winter bulletin is being sent to update you on recent post-graduate member (PGM) activities and exciting new opportunities leading up to the annual meeting at COSM.

ALA-PGM webpage – The ALA Council, with strong support from Dinesh Chhetri, is in the process of building a web presence for the PGM (https://alahns.org/members-area/post-graduate-members/#). We will use this venue to keep you updated on activities and post relevant resources. Please let me know if you have any ideas on content to post (jdaniero@virginia.edu).

Post-grad / Full member mentorship match – We have continued to match all post-grad members to a full ALA member. Those who already have mentors through this program have found it a valuable source of advice for career development, and I encourage any of you without a mentor to participate. New mentor pairings were created for 32 members bringing the total number of pairs to 68! (pairs will be posted in the PGM web-site). Bill Gao and I will be 'running the match' again this July, so if interested in participating, please e-mail Bill (William.Z.Gao@medstar.net).

Laryngology Fellowship Online Curriculum (LFOC) – Recordings of a virtual fellowship curriculum involving several programs and led by Brad deSilva and Ohio State will also be made available for the laryngologists of PGM. More to come on the availability of these videos on the website soon.

Breakfast Symposium – We are excited to bring back ("post-COVID") the annual ALA-PGM Breakfast Symposium during COSM 2022 in Dallas. These informal lectures have been well received in the past, and we're always looking for more ideas. If there are any topics in particular that might interest you, please let me know (jdaniero@virginia.edu)

Date: Friday, 4/29 at 6:00AM (Continental breakfast will be provided)
Topic: Developing a new laryngology skill set: Bilateral and Unilateral Reinnervation
Speakers: Marshall Smith MD FACS and Julina Ongkasuwan MD FAAP FACS

ALA-PGM Scientific Presentation Award – *New this year* during COSM, a monetary award ($500) will be presented to the best scientific oral presentation by a PGM member (must be first or last author). PGM abstracts will be automatically eligible. The award will be presented at the end of the ALA proceedings during COSM and acknowledged in the ALA newsletter.

Thank you all for keeping the PGM section of ALA vibrant and building the future of our organization. For those that can make it, I look forward to seeing you at the ALA meeting in Dallas soon.

Post-Graduate Membership Committee

Chairperson ……..……James Daniero, MD
Committee Members …. Matt Clary, MD; Karla O'Dell, MD; William Gao, MD; Sara Abu Ghanem, MD; Robert Morrison, MD

Advisors…… Michael M. Johns III, MD; Lee Akst, MD, Melin Tan-Geller, MD

From the Desk of the Secretary

The Council of the American Laryngological Association has proposed and discussed two changes in the bylaws that will be presented to membership to vote on in the upcoming months.

The first change would be to convert the language of the bylaws to include gender neutral pronouns. This would be accomplished by replacing iterations of ‘he/she’ to ‘they’ with a goal to reduce unintended bias within the bylaws.

The second change is that of the definition of the Historian position on the Council. Currently, the Historian is defined as a former member of the Council who serves one or two additional terms of 5 years each following a full term on the Council. Thus, one individual could hold office (and a voting position) for 16 or even 21 years if re-appointed, almost twice as long as any other officer of the Association. The proposed bylaws changes transform the Historian position into a regular Council office, such as Secretary, Treasurer, or Editor. This will even out term lengths across the entire Council, so that there is no longer the abridged so-called “fast track” position. Each Fellow elected to the Council will serve the same length of time and have an equal say in Association affairs.

As 2022 moves along, we hope that the darkest days of this pandemic will finally be behind us. Our 2022 annual meeting will be in-person in Dallas, Texas. Drs. Rosen and Buckmire have planned a fantastic program. The ALA annual meeting at COSM will again be three half days, beginning Thursday and ending Saturday.

While COSM leadership and the ALA will provide a virtual option for those that cannot travel, I look forward to re-kindling our in-person camaraderie and meeting face-to-face again, even if some of our smiles are behind masks.

Kind regards,

Joel H. Blumin, MD